MAD CAVE

DAVE CHISHOLM

IS TED OK?

IS TED OK?

DAVE CHISHOLM
STORY, ART & LETTERS

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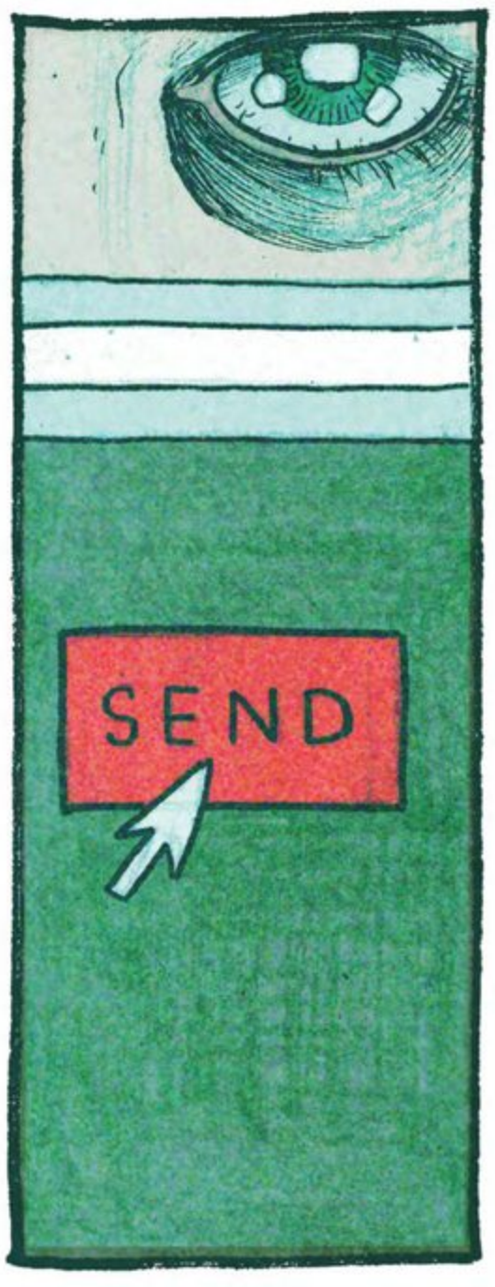
Digital Version.

MAD CAVE

AYN-STYNE

it's spy
you don't REALLY know your neighbors, do you?
PARANOIA
IS
PROTECTION
SEND


SEND

CLICK

HEY. IT'S ME.
SO, I CAUSED A CAR CRASH LAST NIGHT.
IT SUCKED.

LEMME BACK UP.

SINCE THE LAST TIME WE TALKED, I ACTUALLY GOT TRANSFERRED TO THE NEW YORK BRANCH.

THE MOVE WAS REALLY HARD WITHOUT YOU.

SO, FOR BETTER OR WORSE, I'M STILL WORKING FOR **AYN-STYNE,** JUST ON THE OPPOSITE END OF THE COUNTRY.

EAST COAST!

ANYWAY, YEAH--DESPITE EVERYTHING THAT WENT DOWN, I DIDN'T GET CANNED. ONE OF THE PERKS OF WORKING FOR THE BIGGEST CORPORATION ON EARTH, I GUESS.

THERE ARE, LIKE, A GAZILLION DIFFERENT JOBS AND SO THEY JUST MOVED ME OUT HERE AND CHANGED MY ROLE.

A FRESH START.

THIS IS GONNA SOUND CRAZY BUT I THINK THIS JOB IS A PRETTY GOOD FIT FOR ME.

I WORK FROM HOME AND I SIT AND MONITOR THREE EMPLOYEES IN THE MARKETING DEPARTMENT--ALL DAY, ALL NIGHT--AS MUCH AS I CAN.

AND I LOOK FOR WARNING SIGNS OF SUICIDAL OR HOMICIDAL TENDENCIES.

MOSTLY THE SECOND ONE, TO BE HONEST.

CLOTHES

DOESN'T SEEM LIKE THEY CARE MUCH IF AN EMPLOYEE IS SUICIDAL.

GREEN, TED

KNOCK KNOCK!

UHH...TED?

TED?

KNOCK KNOCK...?

NOK NOK

LOVE THE NEW POSTER DESIGN, TED.

YOU'RE, UH...

...YOU'RE REALLY CRANKING THEM OUT!

THAT'S, WHAT, FOUR NEW, UM, DESIGNS THIS WEEK?

SHK.

I, UH, CONFERRED WITH THE HIGHER-UPS AND THEY APPROVED OF YOU RECEIVING **A TOKEN OF APPRECIATION™** FOR YOUR QUALITY WORK.

I'LL, UM...

...YOU KNOW WHAT?

I'LL BRING IT BY LATER WHEN YOU'RE NOT SO BUSY.

NO SWEAT!

KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK, BUDDY!

TED IS ONE OF THE PEOPLE I WAS HIRED TO WATCH.

WHAT...?

IS HE **DRAWING?**

WHERE TO START?

WHEN YOU FIRST SEE TED, HE'S REALLY BIZARRE. OFF-PUTTING.

HE HAS HEADPHONES ON ALL THE TIME-- **ALL THE TIME**--AND HE ONLY EVER LISTENS TO THE SAME PIECE OF MUSIC OVER AND OVER AGAIN--SOME THEME AND VARIATIONS BY NICCOLO PAGANINI.

(I LOOKED PAGANINI UP. HE WAS A VIOLINIST IN THE 1800s WHO CLAIMED TO HAVE SOLD HIS SOUL TO THE DEVIL.)

SO YEAH--THE **HEADPHONES.** THEY'RE CLEARLY THERE SO TED DOESN'T HAVE TO TALK TO PEOPLE.

BECAUSE, YOU SEE, TED DOESN'T SEEM TO REALLY **LIKE** PEOPLE.

BUT--AND I HOPE YOU'RE NOT MAD I'M SAYING THIS--

SHK

--THERE'S A LOT ABOUT HIM THAT REMINDS ME OF **YOU.**

PLEASE DO NOT FRATERNIZE WITH YOUR CO-WORKERS.

THEY JUST WANT TO GET HOME IN PEACE.

LET THEM DECOMPRESS.

AYN-STYNE

SUSPICION IS NORMAL

VIGILANCE

SUSPICION SAVES LIVES

CHRIST

DO NOT RISK IT. VIGILANCE

my·LITIA

HELLO AGAIN, JONNY.

WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN UP TO TODAY?

SKRITCH

SKIP STOPPED BY MY OFFICE AGAIN TODAY.

HE'S JUST LIKE EVERYONE ELSE AT AYN-STYNE.

FAKE.

FIRST OFF, HE LOVES CATS--JUST LIKE YOU.

THERE'S MORE, THOUGH.

LITERALLY FAKE.

LIKE HE'S MADE OUT OF **PLASTIC.**

I CAN'T EVEN LOOK IN THE EYES.

YOU ALWAYS USED TO SAY THAT I WAS GOOD AT READING PEOPLE, RIGHT?

NOM NOM

I THINK **THOUGHTS,** JONNY.

DARK THOUGHTS.

IT'S THESE AWFUL **DREAMS.**

THAT'S **GOTTA** BE WHY I GOT THIS JOB--

WHY, GIVEN **EVERYTHING** THAT HAPPENED, THEY STILL TRUST **ME** TO DO **THIS** JOB.

NOM NOM

2:30 AM.

EVERY NIGHT.

CLOCKWORK.

I LOOK AT TED AND I SEE THIS **DISTANCE** BETWEEN HIM AND THE WORLD AROUND HIM...

THEY FREAK ME OUT, MAN.

VIOLENCE LIKE THAT FREAKS ME OUT.

IT FEELS SO **REAL**--NOT LIKE A VIDEO GAME, Y'KNOW?

...HE'S **SUFFERING.**

HE IS.

AND...AND I CAN HELP HIM. **REALLY** HELP HIM.

LIKE I SHOULD'VE HELPED **YOU.**

HE'S LIKE AN INJURED BABY BIRD, YOU KNOW?

OH NO, JONNY--

--DON'T WORRY.

OBVIOUSLY **YOU'RE** REAL.

YOU'RE JUST OUT HERE DOING YOUR THING.

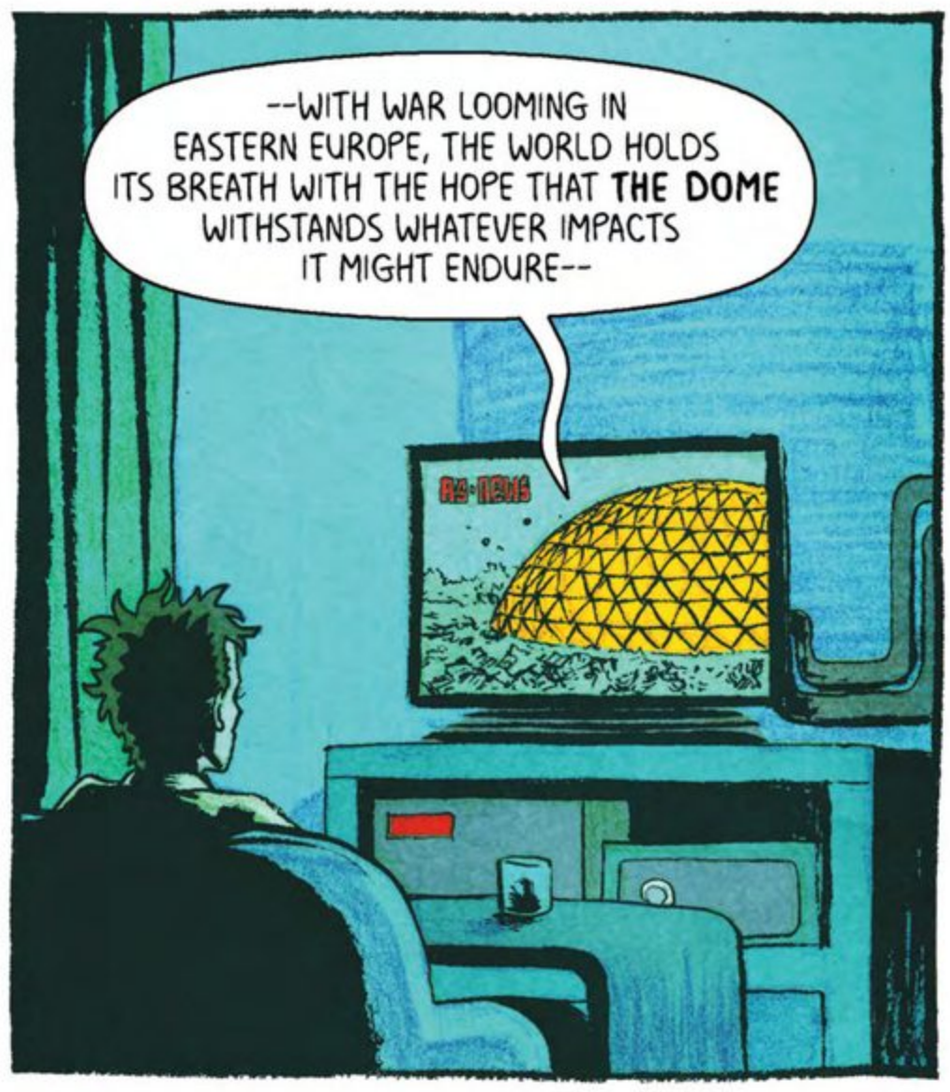
AN INJURED BABY BIRD WHOSE ONLY FRIEND IS A STRAY CAT, BUT STILL...

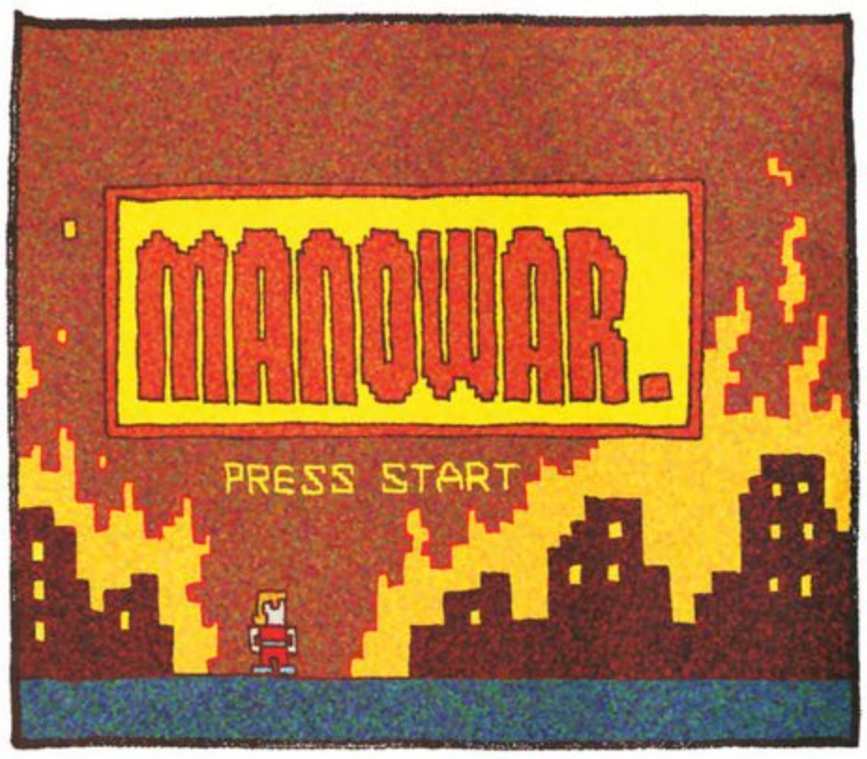
WHAT WOULD I DO WITHOUT YOU, BUDDY?

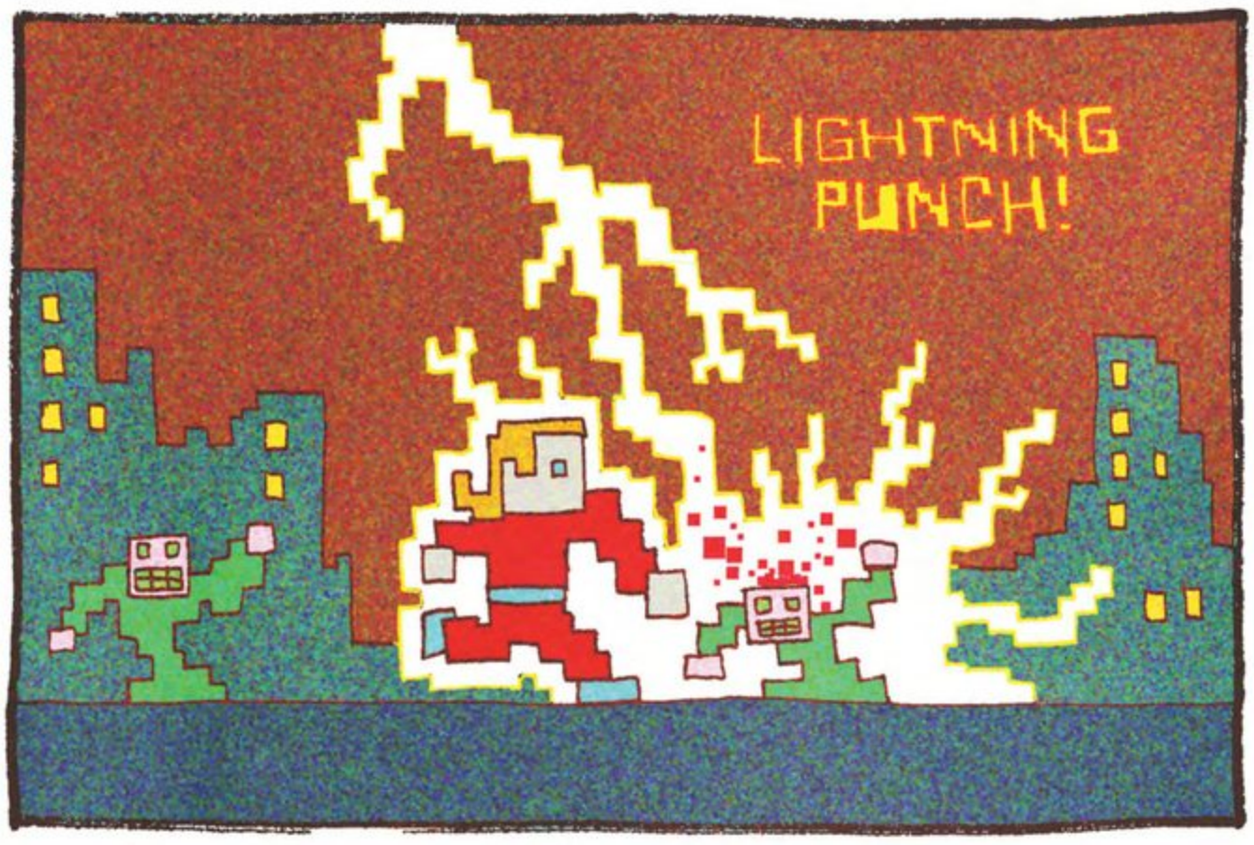
...IF I CAN HELP HIM, THEN I **SHOULD,** RIGHT?

2:30 AM...

GAP


--WITH WAR LOOMING IN EASTERN EUROPE, THE WORLD HOLDS ITS BREATH WITH THE HOPE THAT **THE DOME** WITHSTANDS WHATEVER IMPACTS IT MIGHT ENDURE--
AS-NEWS


MANOWAR.
PRESS START


LIGHTNING PUNCH!

ZZZZ

THE ONLY PERSON HE TALKED TO ALL DAY WAS THAT **CAT.**

MAYBE I THINK I'M STRONGER THAN I REALLY AM, TAKING ON **THIS** JOB AFTER EVERYTHING.

BUT BEGGARS CAN'T BE CHOOSERS, RIGHT?

I NEED A JOB.

IT'S NOT **JUST** THAT, THOUGH.

YES, IT MIGHT FEEL SORT OF CRUEL FOR ME TO TAKE **THIS** PARTICULAR JOB.

2:24

YOU KNOW THAT OXYGEN MASK THING, ON FLIGHTS? HOW YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO PUT YOUR **OWN** OXYGEN MASK ON BEFORE HELPING PEOPLE AROUND YOU WITH **THEIR** MASKS?

HMM.

THAT ALWAYS FELT WRONG TO ME--

--NOW MORE THAN EVER.

SO YEAH, THIS JOB IS HARD FOR ME RIGHT NOW--

--BUT I'VE NEVER BEEN MORE EQUIPPED TO HELP.

AND NEVER MORE WILLING.

GAAAAAHHH!

HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
C'MON, TED. GET IT TOGETHER...
AYN-STYNE
PROTECTING AMERICA
WATCHFUL. SAFETY.

WHAT THE HELL IS HE DOING?

SO, LIKE--

--TED'S PAIN SITS JUST BELOW HIS UNPLEASANT SURFACE. I SEE IT, AND...

...I FEEL IT, TOO.

AND BURIED BENEATH THIS LONELINESSS, THIS DISCONNECTION, THIS PARANOIA--

--I SEE A HUMAN BEING WITH A BEAUTIFUL SOUL.

BUT MAYBE I'M JUST PROJECTING BECAUSE HE REMINDS ME OF **YOU.**

AYN-STYNE

USB

AYN-STYNE

UNBORN SOLDIER BONU$

Mothers-to-Be:

Commit your fetus to military service beginning at the age of 14 and receive a one-time **bonus** of **TWO MILLION DOLLARS!**

DO CATS EVER DREAM ABOUT FLYING?

NOM NOM

LET'S FACE IT.

THE DOME WILL BE COMPROMISED ANY DAY NOW.

WORLD WAR III HAS BASICALLY ALREADY STARTED.

OR **WORLD WAR IV**--

--THESE **BOZOS** CAN'T EVEN DECIDE WHICH WORLD WAR IT IS--

vid chat

"THED"?

DID YOU SAY **"THED"**?

AND SO, I'M THINKING--

NO. **TED.**

T-E-D.

TED GREEN.

THAT'S HIS NAME.

--IN A WAY, THIS IS **PERFECT.**

HE'S SOMEONE WHO NEEDS MY HELP.

EMPATHY IS BASICALLY MY JOB HERE, RIGHT?

THAT'S NOT A NAME.

THAT'S NOT EVEN A **WORD.**

OH, WAIT--

--I SEE IT HERE. **"TED."**

I CAN BARELY **PRONOUNCE** IT.

SIGNS AND WONDERS. OK.

I'M LOOKING AT HIS RECORD AND IT LOOKS **IMPECCABLE.**

NO PSYCHOLOGICAL RED FLAGS, NO ATTENDANCE ISSUES, NO PRODUCTIVITY ISSUES--

WATCH PEOPLE AND **FEEL** WHAT THEY FEEL, LOOK FOR THAT **DARKNESS,** AND **HELP.**

I'M TELLING YOU, JANICE--THIS GUY IS **TROUBLED.**

I THINK HE COULD EVEN BE **SUICIDAL--**

BUT, LIKE I SAID--

WELL, YOU CAN ALWAYS CALL THE **KARMA** OFFICE.

THEY'VE GOT THE AUTHORITY TO INTERVENE, TO **ACT.** THEY'RE GREAT--

--MY BOYFRIEND BRODY WORKS IN THAT DEPARTMENT.

--AYN-STYNE DOESN'T SEEM TO CARE IF AN EMPLOYEE IS SUICIDAL.

Ted Green

vid chat

WAIT, I THOUGHT WE WEREN'T SUPPOSED TO "FRATERNIZE" WITH CO-WORKERS.

OH, WELL--

vid chat

BRODY SAYS IT DOESN'T MATTER, AND KARMA ARE KIND OF THE TOP DOGS HERE--

--SO IT DOESN'T SEEM LIKE IT'S A PROBLEM IN **THIS** CASE.

MOUNTAIN PUNCH!

ZZZZ

GAAAAAHHH!

CRACK

DAMN IT!

THAT'S **IT!**

THIS IS THE **LAST** TIME--

--I'M **DONE!**

I--I HAD TO DO **SOMETHING.**

KARMA OFFICE.

KEEPING ALL REGULATIONS WITH MAXIMUM AUTHORITY.

YEAH, HI--HELLO. I'M SARAH VARNER WITH THE **BUSINESS BIG BROTHER** TEAM.

MY SUBJECT-- HE'S UPSET--

IT'S 2:33 AM.

WHO TOLD YOU TO CALL US?

JANICE-- MY SUPERVISOR.

SHE SAID--

Ted Green

THIS IS ABOUT **HELPING** PEOPLE--

RIGHT. JANNY. OK.

WHO'S YOUR SUBJECT?

TED. TED GREEN. HE--

--MY OWN OXYGEN MASK BE DAMNED.

OH YEAH, WE'VE GOT AN EYE ON TED.

HE'S OK.

YOU'VE GOT NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT, **KIDDO.**

I KEEP TELLING **NOAH**™ THAT WE DON'T NEED THE **BBB** PEOPLE.

USELESS MIDDLE-MEN, REALLY.

AND ANYWAY, THESE FUCKERS DIDN'T WANT TO INTERVENE.

KIDDO?!

I'M TELLING YOU, THIS GUY NEEDS **HELP!**

I NEED YOU TO TAKE ME--TO TAKE THIS **SERIOUSLY!**

...YOU SOUND FUN.

SAFETY

OBSERVE

REPORT

BOWLING

IT WAS THE ONLY CHOICE I HAD--

--AND I KNEW **EXACTLY** WHERE HE WOULD BE.

I HAD TO BE THERE, YOU KNOW? JUST IN CASE...

...BUT I ALSO WANTED TO SEE WHAT HE WAS SEEING--

--AND TO UNDERSTAND **WHY** HE WAS FEELING WHAT HE WAS FEELING.

I WAS LIKE AN EMOTIONAL DETECTIVE.

WHEN THAT AIRPLANE FLEW OVER--IT WAS SO CLOSE, SO **HUGE**--

--I **LOST** MYSELF.

AND FOR A SECOND--

--I **GOT** IT.

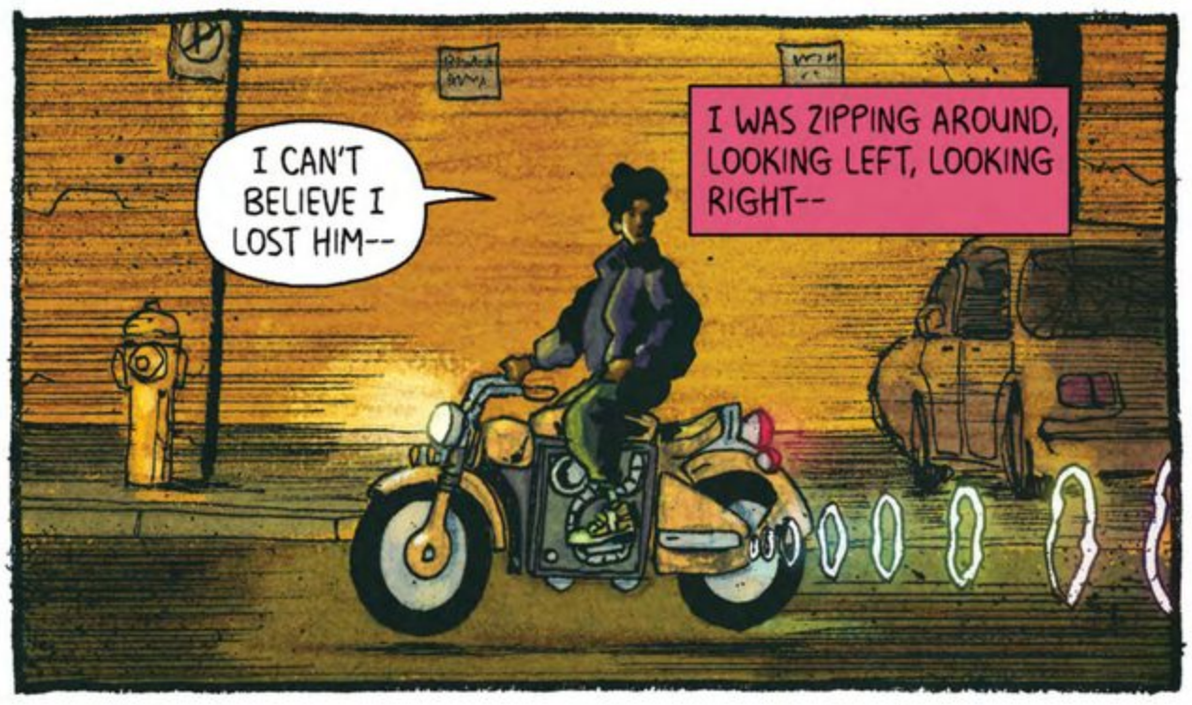
WHEW.

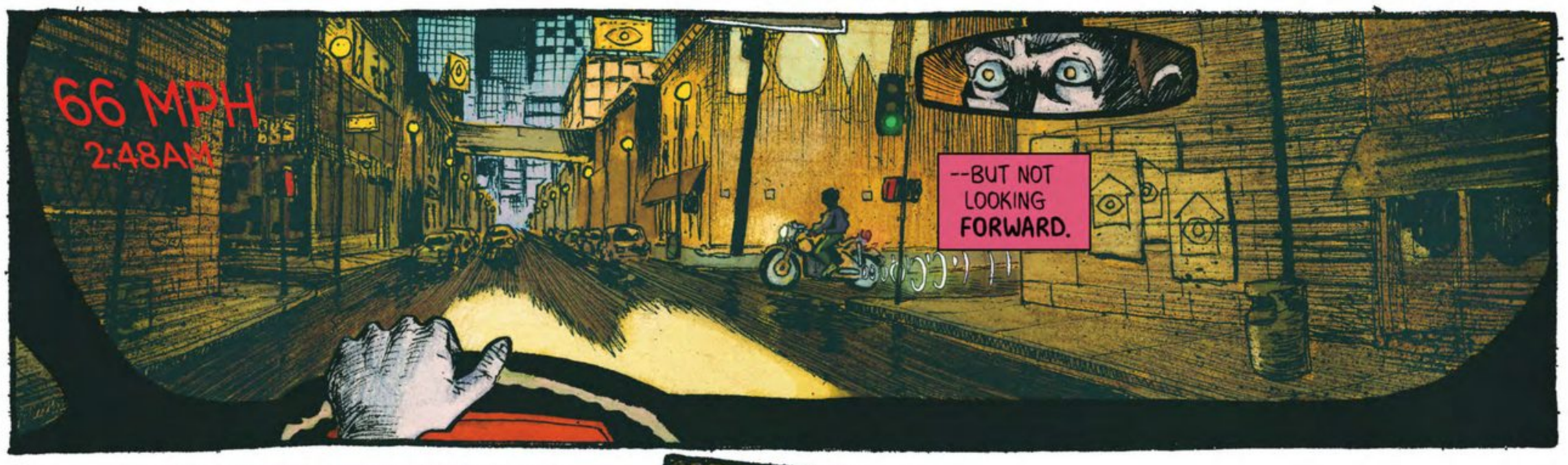
I MEAN, **MAYBE.**

SHIT!

WHERE'D HE--

OR MAYBE I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT THE FUCK WAS GOING ON.

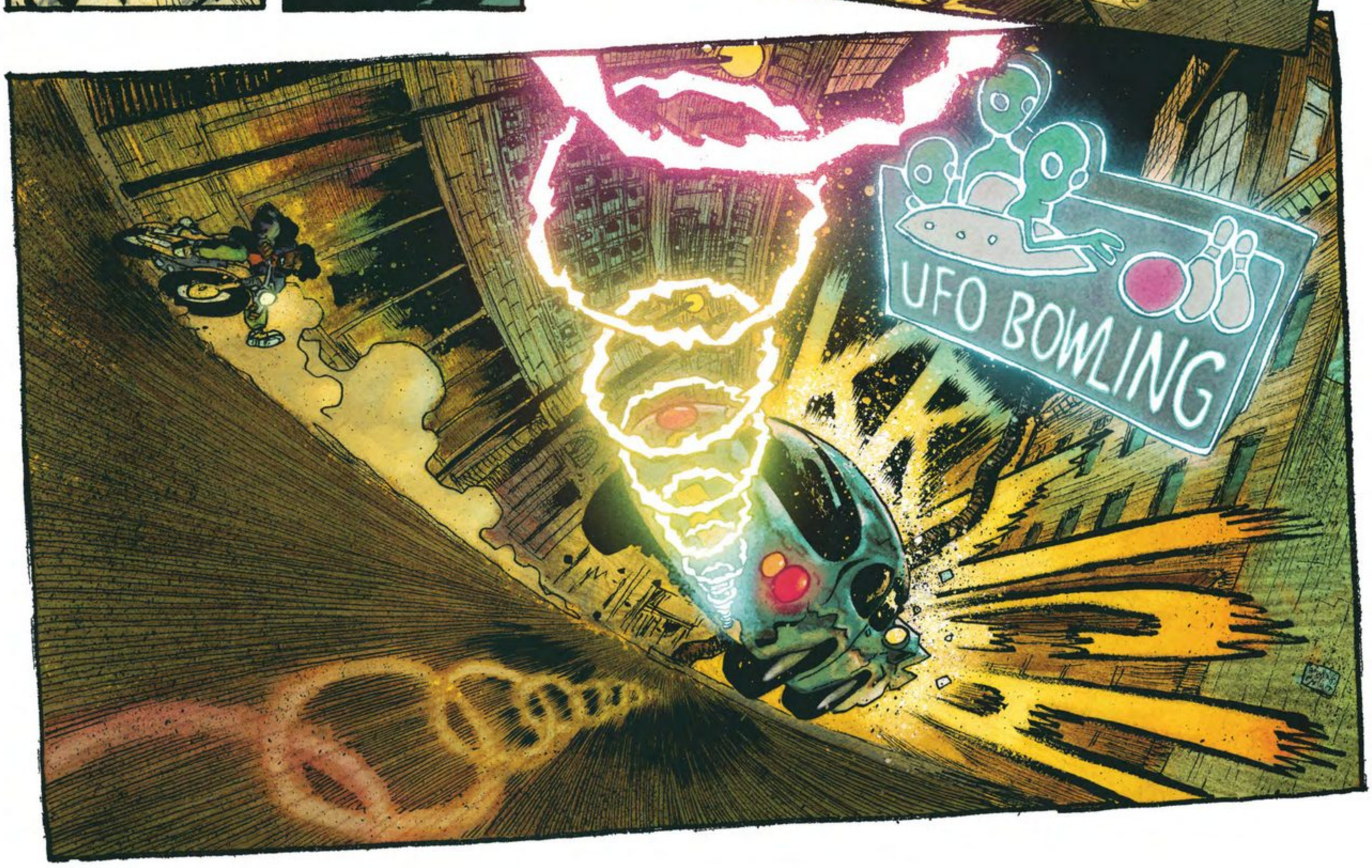

I CAN'T BELIEVE I LOST HIM--
I WAS ZIPPING AROUND, LOOKING LEFT, LOOKING RIGHT--


66 MPH
2:48AM
--BUT NOT LOOKING FORWARD.

AHH!

SHIT!

SKREE
UFO BOWLIN


UFO BOWLING

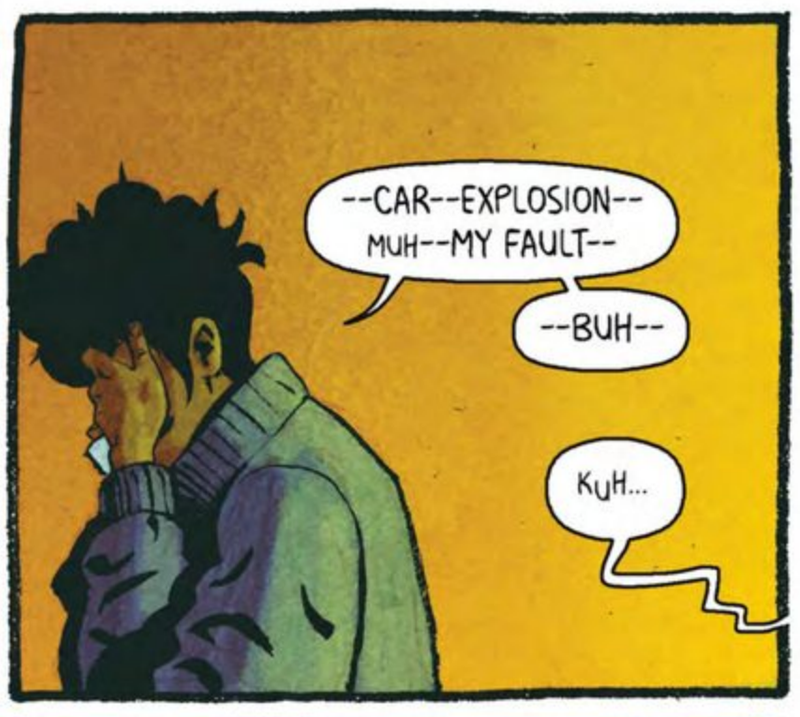
UHHH--

--NO--

--NO!

UFO BOMBING
AAAAAAAA
TED!
I'M--

9-1-1, WHAT'S YOUR EMERGENCY?
T--TED--


--CAR--EXPLOSION--
MUH--MY FAULT--
--BUH--
KUH...

--BY UFO BOWLING...?
...KUH...
...MUH...

--KKKCH--

--MUHH--

SO...YEAH...

...I CAUSED A PRETTY BIG CAR ACCIDENT LAST NIGHT.

SHFF

AFTER THE ACCIDENT I WAS HOLDING TED'S SMOKING BODY.

SOMEHOW HE WASN'T **DEAD.**

I HATE MYSELF FOR THINKING OF **THE PIETA** IN THAT MOMENT--

--FROM THAT TIME YOU AND I WENT TO ROME TOGETHER.

HI-DEE-HO, MA'AM--

--WE'RE HERE TO HELP.

TH--THAT WAS FAST...?

SAVES LIVES!

THAT WAS SO AWFUL--

--I'M GLAD YOU GUYS ARE HERE.

NOT A PROBLEM, MA'AM.

THAT'S NOT AN AMBULANCE--

--WHERE ARE YOU TAKING HIM?

DON'T WORRY--

--WE'RE TAKING HIM TO A HOSPITAL!

BOWL

AMBULANCE

AMBULANCE

MA'AM, ARE YOU OK?

WE'VE BEEN SEEING A REAL EPIDEMIC OF THESE DRIVERLESS CARS CRASHING.

YOU'RE LUCKY TO BE ALIVE, MA'AM.

WHAT? **DRIVERLESS?** NO--

--THE GUY-- **TED**--

--**HE** WAS DRIVING AND THEN THESE GUYS CAME AND TOOK HIM.

TOOK HIS **BODY?**

NO, HE SURVIVED--

NOPE. NO CHANCE.

YOU'RE LUCKY **YOU** SURVIVED THAT EXPLOSION.

NOBODY INSIDE THAT THING IS WALKING AWAY WHEN ONE OF THESE NEW **H-CELL-POWERED AYN-STYNE** CARS GOES UP.

BA-ZOOM.

IT'S WHAT HAPPENED.

NOT POSSIBLE.

I KNOW SOMETIMES **HYSTERIA** CAN TAKE OVER IN STRESSFUL MOMENTS.

WE'LL HAVE OUR PEOPLE CHECK THE CAMERAS AND WE'LL REACH OUT IF WE NEED ANYTHING MORE FROM YOU.

THE NEXT DAY MY SUPERVISOR GAVE ME A TWO-WEEK PAID SUSPENSION.

I'M LUCKY I WASN'T FIRED.

I COULDN'T **NOT** HELP, THOUGH.

"HYSTERIA." ASSHOLE.

BUT IT GETS EVEN WEIRDER:

I ASKED MY SUPERVISOR WHAT HAPPENED TO TED--

--SHE COULDN'T PRONOUNCE HIS NAME **AGAIN,** SO WEIRD--

--AND IT TURNS OUT THAT TED WAS BACK AT WORK **THREE DAYS** LATER.

UNSCATHED, UNBURNT, UNTOUCHED, UNBOTHERED.

AYN-S

PLEASE DO NOT FRATERNIZE WITH YOUR CO-WORKERS.

THEY JUST WANT TO GET HOME IN PEACE.

I'M GOING TO GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS.

I **NEED** TO.

SIGH.

I MISS YOU.

I'M SORRY FOR EVERYTHING.

LET THEM DECOMPRESS.

5:02

CAL

ENDED

FRIENDSHI IS DANGE

HOW IS TED OK?

"YOU MIGHT THINK IT'D BE HOT AS HELL HERE--"

--BUT AT THIS POINT, IT'S ALWAYS COLD. **VERY** COLD.

NOT THAT YOU COULD TELL BY THE STATE OF THIS PLACE--A PILGRIMAGE DESTINATION OF SORTS FOR FRINGE ELEMENTS OF SOCIETY--

--RELIGIOUS ZEALOTS, HEDONISTS, SOOTHSAYERS, THE TERMINALLY ILL.

IT'S A REAL PARTY.

AND THAT'S NOT EVEN MENTIONING THE PRESENCE IN THE AREA OF MULTIPLE **MILITARIES** AND **MILITIAS**--

--OFFERING THE BLEAK PROMISE OF THE NEXT **WORLD WAR**.

THE DOME SITS LIKE A SPHINX AT THE CENTER OF IT ALL, IN BAFFLING SILENCE AMIDST THE SURROUNDING CACOPHONY--

--A GLOWING REMINDER OF THE DOOM THAT SITS AT THE WORLD'S DOORSTEP.

THE SUBJECT OF MY INTERVIEW TODAY IS THE MASTERMIND BEHIND THIS CONSTRUCTION.

AS THE CEO OF **AYN-STYNE,** THE BIGGEST CORPORATION IN THE WORLD, AND ITS COUNTLESS SUBSIDIARIES--

--LEVERAGING INFLUENCE ON EVERY GOVERNMENT AND AGENCY ON EARTH--

--IT'S HARD TO IMAGINE ANY PERSON ON EARTH WITH MORE PURE **CLOUT** THAN **NOAH**™.

AND YET--

THAT ALL SOUNDS VERY **POETIC,** MR. THOMPSON.

IT'S GREAT TO SEE YOU UP SO EARLY.

THANK YOU FOR MEETING ME HERE, AT THE END OF THE EARTH.

SHALL WE BEGIN OUR CHAT?

TO BE CONTINUED...

Dear Readers,

First and foremost, thank you for picking up the first issue of *IS TED OK?* This project has been percolating in the back of my head for several years now–since late 2021. What started as a grain of an absurdist idea snowballed into a big story about Ted, Sarah, and Noah™ (not to mention a few other characters not yet introduced), about human connection and helping people and the choices we make, and along the way it picked up all kinds of other big ideas–mostly from countless long conversations about the story with my brilliant wife, Elise. It's funny...some of the story choices that perhaps seemed *too* broad and satirical a few years ago now feel prescient–a funhouse mirror of our present world, with Ted and Sarah as stand-ins for you and me.

With *IS TED OK?*, I aimed to create a story with a mystery and a scope that increases with each installment. I wanted it to start personal, to get communal, to get global, to get cosmic, to get existential and weird–obviously without losing the plot. Each issue is oversized. This issue is 24 pages, and the following are 28, 28, 28, 28, and 40(!) pages, respectively. I'm so beyond grateful to the folks at Mad Cave Studios and my editor Ryan Carroll for believing in my vision for this book.

This opening chapter barely hints at the stops along the way, the scope of the mystery, or the destination in store. In the world of indie comics, this is a risk, and understandably so. Readers want to know what's in store before committing their hard-earned cash to a series–and sometimes creators acquiesce. I'm playing chicken, though. I'm asking you to trust me. And I'm asking you to tell your friends about this book. Share about it on your social media, your Discord servers, Slack groups, with your pen pals and your weirdo cousins. This book is going to go places. Join us.

I hope you enjoy a few process sketches below and on the next couple of pages, including some very early sketchbook versions of the first few pages. Check out those early designs of Ted and Sarah!

See you next month!

Dave Chisholm
davechisholmcomics@gmail.com

UBSB.FILE
AYN-STYNE
UNBORN SOLDIER BONU$
MOTHERS-TO-BE:
REGISTER YOUR FETUS FOR MILITARY SERVICE AT THE AGE OF 14 AND RECEIVE A $2 MILLION DOLLAR
BONU$
BIRTH THE NEXT GENERATION OF AMERICAN HEROES.
SEND
CLICK.
ANOTHER ONE DOWN.
TODAY'S MY FIRST DAY WORKING FOR AYN-STYNE--
-- THE BIGGEST CORPORATION IN THE WORLD.

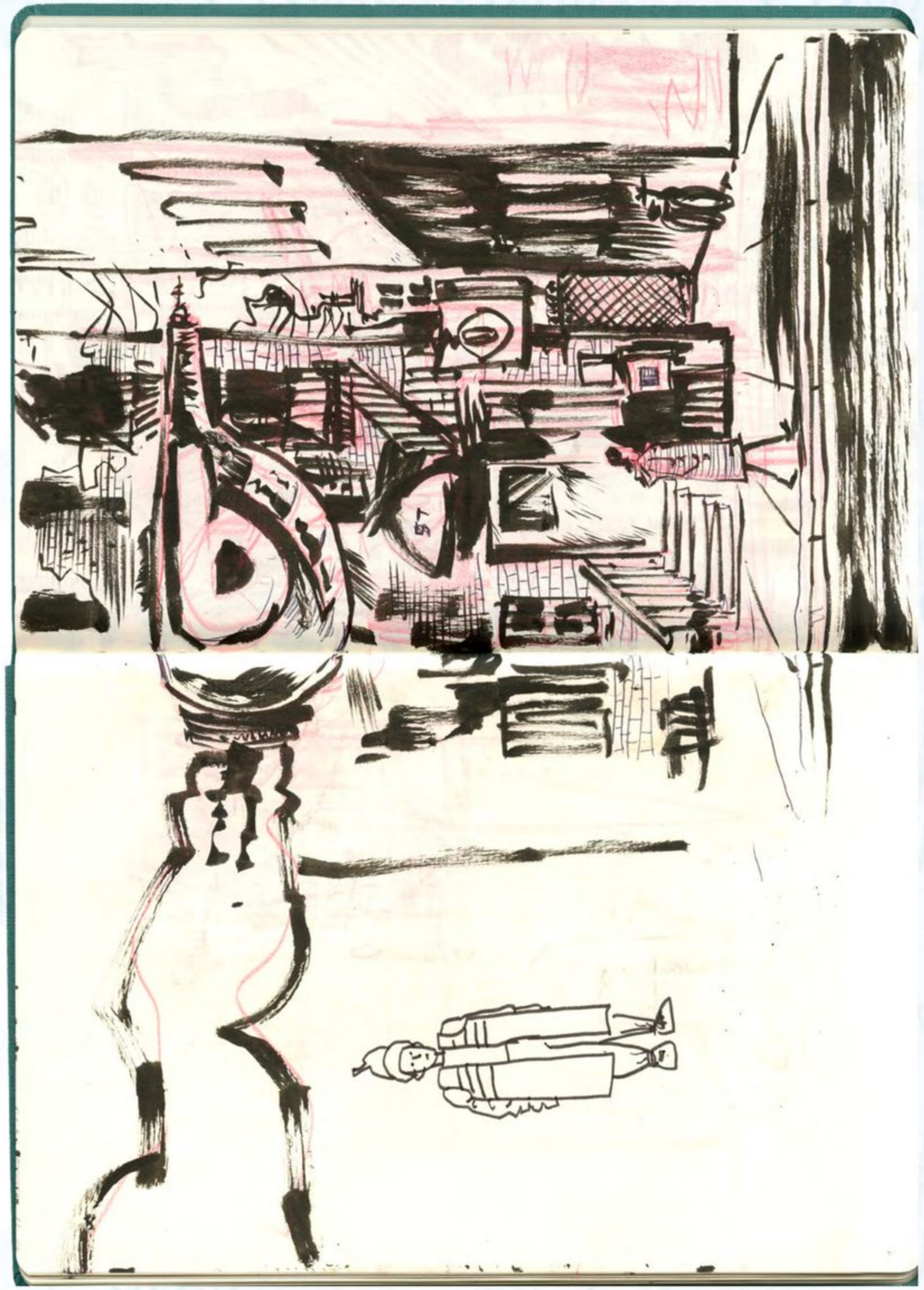
1

MY OFFICIAL JOB TITLE IS B.B.B. AKA. "BUSINESS BIG BROTHER"--
--BUT REALLY IT'S A SURVEILLANCE GIG. AS YOU CAN SEE, I'M A WOMAN SO THE TITLE DOESN'T QUITE FIT, BUT THE CORPORATION LOVES ACRONYMS.
THE JOB INTERVIEW WAS JUST A TEST, SHOWING ME PICTURE AFTER PICTURE OF PEOPLE'S FACES, ASKING ME WHAT EACH PERSON WAS THINKING OR FEELING. TO TELL THEM THE FIRST THING THAT CAME TO MIND.
WE DID THAT FOR THREE HOURS STRAIGHT-- IT WAS A LOT.
BUT HEY, I GOT THE JOB, WHICH MEANS I COULD ACTUALLY AFFORD TO MOVE INTO THE CITY.
YOU MIGHT BE THINKING, HEY-- THIS IS A WORK-FROM-HOME JOB, SO WHY DO I NEED TO BE HERE? WELL, WE HAVE MONTHLY IN-PERSON MEETINGS.
IT'S OK. MAYBE I WANT TO BE HERE.
EITHER WAY, I'M GETTING PAID TO WATCH THESE SIX EMPLOYEES, KEEP AN EYE ON THEM, MAKE SURE THEY DON'T GET, Y'KNOW, SUICIDAL OR HOMICIDAL--
-- AND NOW I GET TO LIVE SOMEWHERE WHERE PEOPLE ACTUALLY LIVE. DO YOU KNOW HOW LONG THE WAIT LIST IS FOR A PLACE LIKE THIS?
4:32 PM JUNE 11
4:32 PM JUNE 12
I'M LUCKY.

2

KNOCK KNOCK!
HEY, SKIP, HOW ARE THINGS?
YOU'RE SLAYING IT AGAIN, TED. VERY GOOD JOB WITH THE NEW AD DESIGN.
WE'VE HAD FIVE MOTHERS REGISTER ALREADY.
OH, RIGHT-- I GUESS IT TURNED OUT ALRIGHT.
IN FACT--
MY BOSSES WERE SO HAPPY WITH YOUR RESULTS THAT THEY WANTED ME TO GIVE YOU--
A TOKEN OF "APPRECIATION" GOOD FOR ONE SNACK FROM THE CAFETERIA.
GOSH, THANKS-- --IT REALLY DOES MEAN A LOT, SKIP.

3



WATCH
YOUR
FRIENDS

MAD CAVE

DAVE CHISHOLM

IS TED OK?

2

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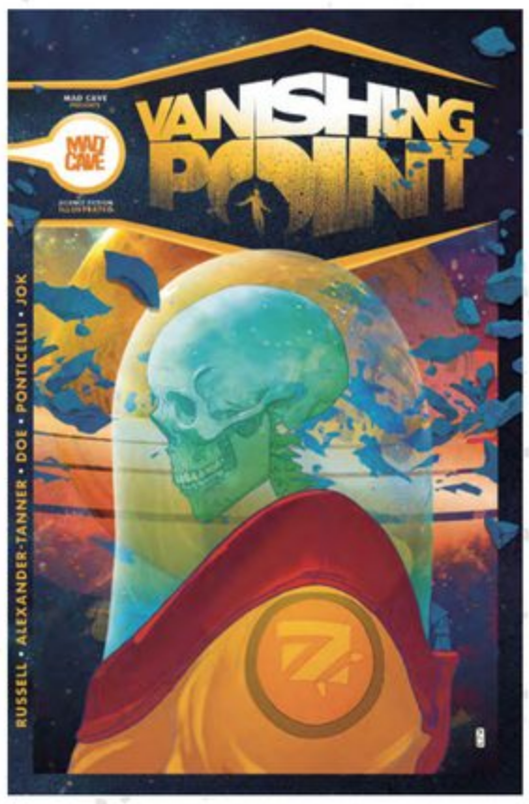
BECAUSE ONE GRAPHIC NOVEL

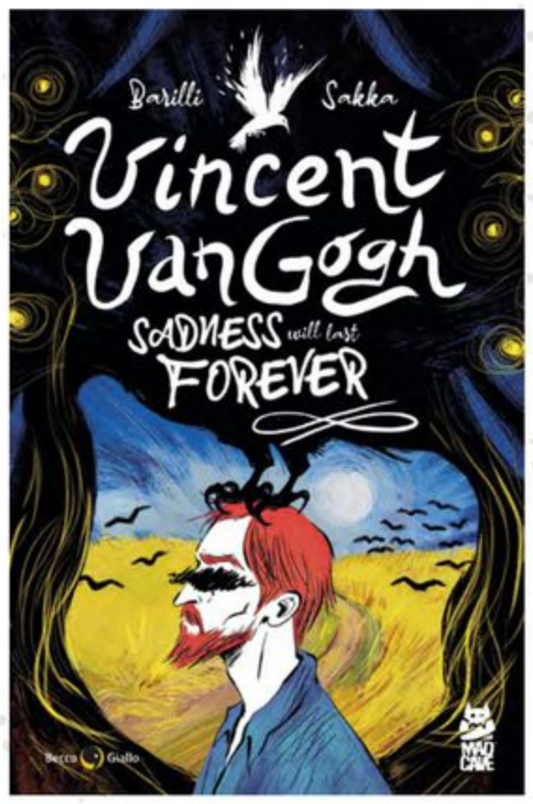
IS NEVER ENOUGH

MAD CAVE®

LOOK INTO MY EYES
Social Media is Killing Us All
ISBN: 9781960578747



VANISHING POINT
Space is the Place for Dread
ISBN: 9781545822838



VAN GOGH
The World of the Great Artist
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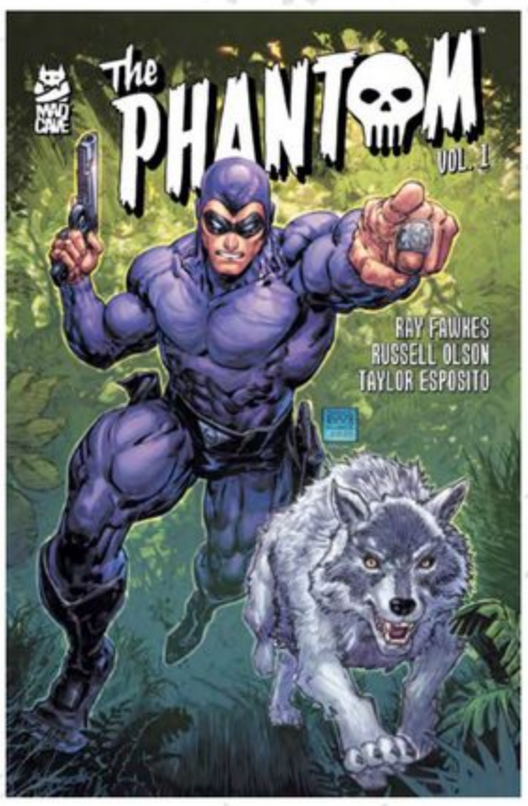

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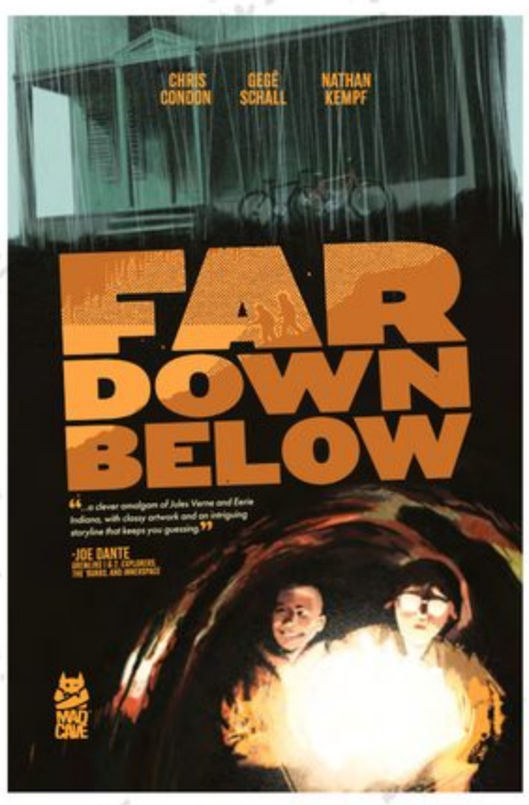

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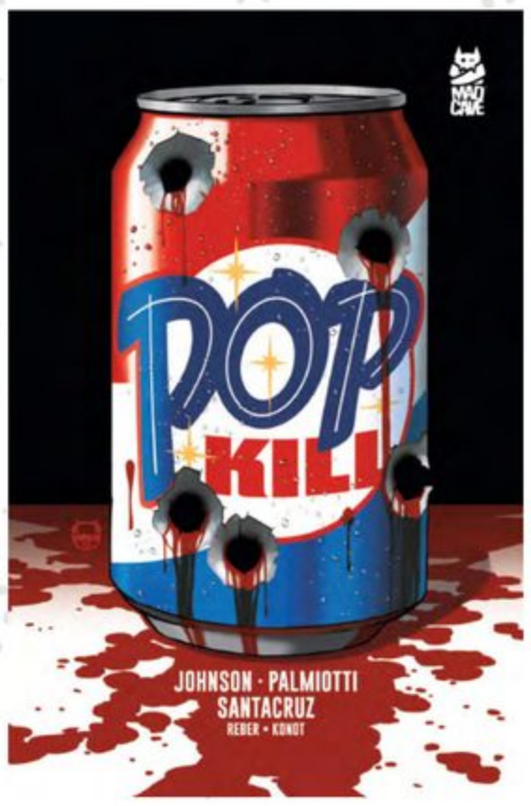

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SPECIAL PREVIEW

MAD CAVE

PRETTY HATE MACHINE 01

O'NAN - SEELEY - ARMITANO
STEVENS - SHARPE

HEY! WAIT UP!

JOON! COME ON, MAN! IT'S NOT LIKE IT'S FAIR, DUDE!

YOU'RE A PRO!

YEAH, YEAH... FINE.

SKRRCH

FINALLY, YA DICK. I'M *SWEATING BALLS* IN THIS MONKEY SUIT.

WHNNF. SERIOUSLY, JOON. WHAT THE FRICK?

HEY. LOOK.

HISTORIC ELSINORE BRIDGE

OH, SHIT. IS THAT WHERE HE--?

YEAH, RIGHT THERE. FUCKED UP, MAN.

THAT'S WHERE A DUDE *DIED.*

POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS

OKAY, ENOUGH SIGHTSEEING. WE'RE GONNA BE LATE.

HEY, YOU GUYS SEE THAT? THAT LIGHT...

YEAH. I SEE IT. JOON, CHECK IT OUT. OTHER SIDE OF THE BRIDGE...

WEIRD.

CREEPY AS FUCK IS MORE LIKE IT.

DUDE, ELDER ALAN'S GONNA KEEP YOU FROM YOUR MISSION NEXT YEAR IF YOU DON'T QUIT SWEARING LIKE THAT.

HELL DO I CARE? YOU'RE GETTING SENT TO ROME WHILE I'LL BE GOING DOOR-TO-DOOR IN *FUCKING HOUSTON, TEXAS.*

SO UNFAIR. I NEED SOME *ADVENTURE.* COME ON, LET'S CHECK IT OUT.

IT'S PROBABLY ALIENS.

NO. GUYS, WE *HAVE* TO GO. IT'S IMPORTANT WE'RE THERE...

THIS JUST IN, *MALCOLM--PRO BMXER,* JOON CHU, SCARED SHITLESS BY LIGHT IN THE WOODS.

AFFIRMATIVE, *DUSTY.* APPARENTLY, THOSE BAGGY PANTS ARE HIDING HIS *MASSIVE* VAGINA.

JESUS. DOES BEING TWINS *AND* MORMON MAKE YOU GUYS *DOUBLE* FUCKING WEIRD?

SORRY... YOU'RE BREAKING UP...

...ONLY HEARING WHINY BABY NOISES...

FINE. IT'S PROBABLY A MEET-UP SPOT FOR GAY DUDES.

YOU WOULD KNOW.

HAHA HA.

=PFH= I'M JUST SAYING--IF *MAMA GERTIE* GETS MAD...

...IT'S *YOUR* ASSES.

NO, SERIOUSLY. I HEARD IF YOU BACK THE CAR INTO THE PARKING SPOT, IT MEANS YOU'RE DOWN TO BLOW.

REALLY? DID YOU HEAR THAT FROM YOUR OWN MOUTH AS A DICK WAS ENTERING IT?

YO. SHUT THE FUCK UP...

...DO YOU GUYS *HEAR THAT...?*

PLP

PLP

WHAT THE...?

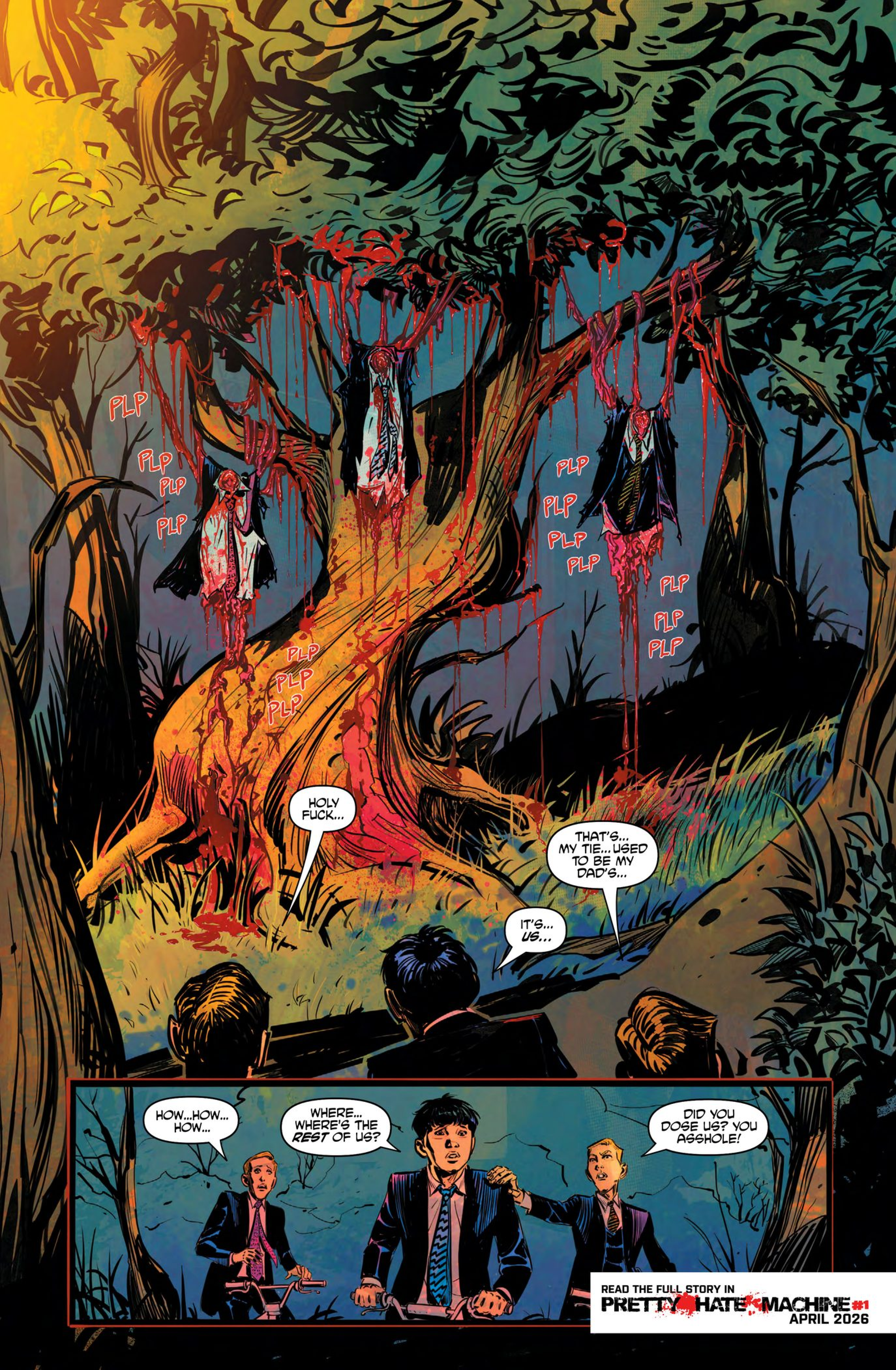
PLP

PLP

PLP

PLP

PLP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HOLY FUCK...
THAT'S... MY TIE... USED TO BE MY DAD'S...
IT'S... *US*...
HOW...HOW... HOW...
WHERE... WHERE'S THE *REST* OF US?
DID YOU DOSE US? YOU ASSHOLE!
READ THE FULL STORY IN
PRETTY HATE MACHINE #1
APRIL 2026

MAD CAVE®

RATED T+/TEEN+
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